

Promoting Peace, Inciting Violence

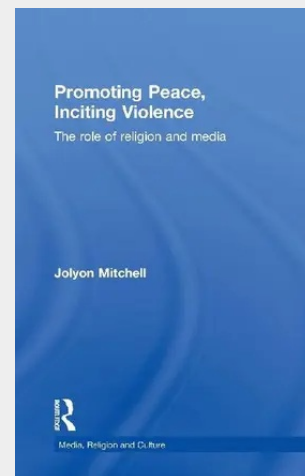
The Role of Religion and Media

This book explores how media and religion combine to play a role in promoting peace and inciting violence. It analyses a wide range of media - from posters, cartoons and stained glass to websites, radio and film - and draws on diverse examples from around the world, including Iran, Rwanda and South Africa. - Part One considers how various media forms can contribute to the creation of violent environments: by memorialising past hurts; by instilling fear of the 'other'; by encouraging audiences to fight, to die or to kill neighbours for an apparently greater good. - Part Two explores how film can bear witness to past acts of violence, how film-makers can reveal the search for truth, justice and reconciliation, and how new media can become sites for non-violent responses to terrorism and government oppression. To what extent can popular media arts contribute to imagining and building peace, transforming weapons into art, swords into ploughshares? Jolyon Mitchell skillfully combines personal narrative, practical insight and academic analysis.

This book is about the role that media and religion play in promoting peace and inciting violence. Using a wide range of examples drawn from around the world, it explores:

- how different media contribute to the creation of communicative environments where violence can be incited
- how various media are used to promote peacebuilding
- the ambivalent role of religion in these processes.

It is sometimes suggested that through skilful packaging of religious messages audiences can be turned into more violent or more peaceful citizens. Jolyon Mitchell paints a more complex picture in order to tease out the ambivalence of the sacred in a number of different communicative contexts.



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